482. The District Board, Bellary, continued to function under the Deputy Commissioner as Special Officer. The revenue and expenditure of the Board were Rs. 12,59,106 (Rs. 14,24,139) and Rs. 13,15,726 (Rs. 12,82,115), respectively. District Board, Bellary.

483. The Board had an Engineering Establishment of its own during the year and maintained roads of a total length of 356 miles, 5 furlongs at a cost of Rs. 80,617.

484. There were 339 Elementary Schools and six High Schools and 27 regular and subsidized dispensaries of Allopathic and Indian Medicine maintained by the Board.

(vii) Kolar Gold Field Sanitary Board.

485. The area and the population of the Kolar Gold Field Sanitary Board, including 33 Village Panchayats comprising 76 indirectly administered villages, was about 30 square miles and 1,59,158 respectively.

486. The supply of water from the Dethamangala Filters continued to be adequate and satisfactory during the year for the Sanitary Board Area.

487. The total demand (including arrears of Rs. 57,219-86), collection and balance of the Sanitary Board were Rs. 5,65,381-14, Rs. 5,02,713-51 and Rs. 62,667-63 respectively.

488. The total receipts during the year including the opening balance were Rs. 6,85,367. The total expenditure was Rs. 6,35,979 leaving a closing balance of Rs. 49,388.

(viii) Village Panchayats and Rural Development.

BANGALORE DIVISION.

489. The Mysore Village Panchayat and District Boards Act, 1952 was in force in Bangalore, Kolar, Tumkur and Chitaldrug Districts and the Madras Village Panchayat Act of 1950 was in force in Bellary District.

490. The total number of Village Panchayats in the Division was 6,742 (6,742).

491. The cash balance at the credit of the Village Panchayats at the beginning of the year was Rs. 43,68,292. The total income from all the sources during the year Financial Position.

LOCAL ADMN.

amounted to Rs. 21,85,018 (Rs. 30,12,053) making a total income of Rs. 65,53,310. Out of this, a sum of Rs. 22,77,141 (Rs. 24,42,599) was spent during the year leaving a balance of Rs. 42,76,169 at the end of the year.

Demand, Collection and Balance.

492. The total amount outstanding recovery at the beginning of the year amounted to Rs. 14,80,625. The demand, collection and balance for the year were Rs. 17,76,717 (Rs. 19,30,778), Rs. 15,23,278 (Rs. 19,34,043) and Rs. 17,34,064, respectively.

493. An expenditure of Rs. 2,28,400 for conservancy and sanitation, Rs. 22,643 for medical relief, Rs. 1,40,035 for lighting charges and Rs. 7,60,596 on public works was incurred during the year.

494. Five hundred and twenty-one Village Panchayats were maintaining sweeping establishments, 34 were contributing for the maintenance of Local Fund Dispensaries and 55 had arranged for weekly visits of the Sub-Assistant Surgeon.

495. The allotment during the year under the head "Rural Health and Sanitation" was Rs. 2,18,400 for taking up village improvement works in the village.

Libraries and Reading Rooms.

496. Nine hundred and forty-four (894) rural libraries and reading rooms were functioning during the year.

Rural Water Supply.

497. One thousand eighty-one well works were under execution at the beginning of the year. During the year, 355 well works were taken up making a total of 1,436 wells to be completed. The allotment during the year under the head "Rural Water Supply" was Rs. 15,30,500.

Local Development Works.

498. An expenditure of Rs. 5,96,726 against an allotment of Rs. 6,08,123 was incurred during the year on 388 Local Development Works which included village roads, small bridges, culverts, construction of or improvement to school or dispensary buildings, godowns for storage of grains, etc. The response from the village panchayats and the villagers for participating in this scheme was encouraging.

MYSORE DIVISION.

499. The total number of village panchayats in the Division was 6,153. The Mysore Village Panchayats

and District Boards Act, 1952, the Coorg Panchayat Raj Act, 1956 and the Madras Village Panchayat Act, 1950 were in force in the Districts of Old Mysore State, Coorg and South Kanara and Kollegal, respectively.

Financial Position.

500. The income and expenditure of the village panchayats during the year were Rs. 20,98,574 (Rs. 17,76,103) and Rs. 25,24,334 (Rs. 16,76,457), respectively.

Demand, Collection and Balance.

501. The demand, collection and balance were Rs. 26,35,809 (Rs. 24,06,474), Rs. 10,05,786 (Rs 11,97,605), and Rs. 16,30,023 (Rs. 12,08,869) respectively.

Other Improvements.

502. Eight hundred and twenty-nine village panchayats were maintaining reading rooms and libraries, 625 panchayats had street lighting and 359 panchayats were maintaining sweeping and scavenging establishments.

503. A sum of Rs. 4,86,056 was spent on water supply, Rs. 7,70,883 on public works, Rs. 42,220 on medical relief and Rs. 1,37,762 on lighting, during the year.

Rural Water Supply.

504. Four hundred and seventy-four well works were completed during the year leaving a balance of 1,025 well works which were under different stages of progress.

Local Development Works

505. Two hundred and sixteen works were completed leaving a balance of 1,110 at the close of the year.

Belgaum Division.

506. The total number of village panchayats functioning at the end of the year was 1,403 (1,252).

507. Each panchayat at its first meeting elects a Nyaya Panchayat under Section 37 of the Bombay Village Panchayat Act. One thousand and seventy-five Nyaya Panchayats have been conferred with judicial powers for trying petty civil suits and criminal cases.

508. Very few Nyaya Panchayats have exercised the judicial powers vested in them during the year. This probably indicates that the utility of the Nyaya Panchayats has not been properly appreciated by the village folk.

509. Thirty per cent of the land revenue was assigned under Section 92A of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act as grant-in-aid to all the village panchayats in this Division. The total grants paid to the village panchayats during the year amounted to Rs. 16,77,080.

LOCAL ADMN.

510. Different taxes are levied by the village panchayats, but house tax is levied by all the village panchayats and it is the main source of income to village panchayats.

511. The income and expenditure of the village panchayats during the year were Rs. 49,95,259 and Rs. 46,71,033, respectively.

Demand, Collection and Balance.

512. The total demand, collection and balance of the village panchayats during the year were Rs. 30,09,019, Rs. 13,35,584 and Rs. 16,70,101, respectively.

513. Only 56 village panchayats had conservancy staff.

514. The number of wells constructed during the year was 97 and the number repaired was 219.

GULBARGA DIVISION.

515. Out of 3,238 villages in the Division, 600 were covered by village panchayats and were functioning in accordance with the Hyderabad Gram Panchayat Act, 1956.

516. The Hyderabad Gram Panchayats Act provides for the payment of 15 per cent of Land Revenue and 50 per cent of local cess for the villages concerned to the panchayats as grants-in-aid by the Government and District Board, respectively. Besides this, village panchayats are deriving income from cattle ponds, cattle bazar, fisheries, property tax, professional tax, etc.

517. There was one District Panchayat Officer for each District for guiding the panchayats and improving their efficiency and keeping control over them. In the village panchayat, the Sarpanch was the head of the panchayat administration.

518. Sanitary staff on part-time basis was appointed in all the old panchayats to look after the sanitation of villages. Street lighting arrangements were made in most of the panchayat villages.

519. During the year, a sum of Rs. 56,700 was sanctioned by the Government as subsidy to the village panchayats of this Division for five months

520. The Gram Panchayats in this Division were in their infant stage. Therefore, attempts were being made to infuse in them the spirit of leadership and service to the country.